

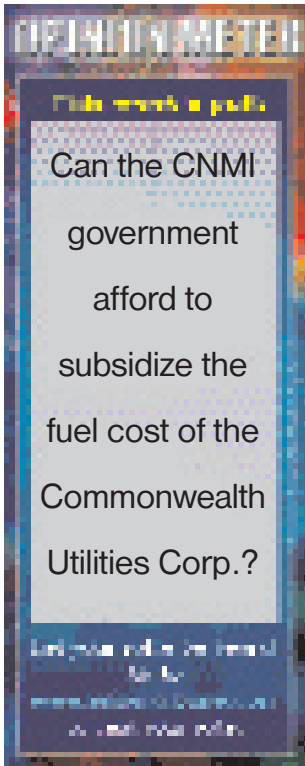
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INSIDE



Loi Kratong

The beach-side of the Pacific Islands Club was packed with hundreds of people Saturday night for the 6th Annual Loi Krathong Thai Festival.

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Fallujah Massacre

Iraq's most feared terror group claimed responsibility Sunday for slaughtering members of the Iraqi security forces in Mosul, where dozens of bodies have been found.

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SGT FABIAN INDALECIO

SIMULATED COMBAT

SGT Ryan Camacho, left standing, and Dwight Cruz, bottom, conduct a corner security check before the assault team, rear, as they prepare to enter a simulated terrorist building suspected of harboring weapons. Members of the assault team include SSG Shaddox, kneeling, PFC Maratita, PVT Clement Kaipat, SGT Santos and PVT Romeo Aldan. The CNMI's soldiers are undergoing training at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Some 30 retirees 'double dipping'

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund has threatened to cut the pension benefits of some 30 retirees following discovery that they have been "double dipping" into the government's coffers.

This refers to retirees who have been re-employed in the government and are

getting salary and earning retirement benefits anew while receiving their monthly pensions at the same time.

Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes said yesterday that notices were sent to those concerned, prompting these individuals to appeal their cases. He declined to identify these individuals.

"It's a case of double dipping. There's plenty of them and some of them had appealed and asked for a hear-

ing," said Reyes.

He said the Fund board of trustees agreed to grant the retirees a chance to air their side in a hearing. The hearing will be held possibly next week.

Reyes said the Fund would ask the



Reyes

employees to either choose their job and stop receiving pension or keep their pension but resign from government work.

He said these retirees are currently employed in the Legislature, Department of Public Health, Mayor's Office, and the Department of Labor.

"The board's decision is to hold a hearing," said Reyes.

Retirees receive their pension pay ev-

See **SOME** on Page 12

PaganWatch seeks access to MPLA records

By AGNES E. DONATO
REPORTER

A watchdog group filed an Open Government Act request yesterday with the Marianas Public Lands Authority to un-

cover details about mining permits and applications on Pagan.

Attorney F. Matthew Smith, who filed the public records request on behalf of PaganWatch, said his group wanted to make sure that the public is informed

of all MPLA discussions concerning the mining application of Azmar International and the mining permit of J.G. Sablan Rock Quarry Inc.

He said PaganWatch particularly

See **PAGANWATCH** on Page 12

Feds cites concerns on entry of Chinese tourists

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

The federal government has expressed some concerns about the CNMI's readiness for the entry of more Chinese

tourists, in view of China's decision to grant Approved Destination Status to the Commonwealth.

Gov. Juan N. Babauta said he discussed that issue and the CNMI's tourism industry as a whole at length with Department

of the Interior assistant deputy secretary for insular areas David Cohen during a recent meeting in Washington D.C.

He said he and Cohen both recognize the number of challenges that the CNMI

See **FEDS** on Page 12

Powerful quake hurts 13 in Japan

By KENJI HALL
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TOKYO (AP)—A powerful earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 7.1 struck Japan's northern island of Hokkaido early Monday, swaying buildings, throwing objects off shelves and triggering a small tsunami wave that reached the shore.

At least 13 people were injured by

See **POWERFUL** on Page 12

Local

Pete A. sounds alarm over future of NMI

Faced with what he says is a crisis 20 years in the making, Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio is urging CNMI leaders to convene a non-partisan "summit" to tackle a number of crucial issues facing the islands' future and its people, including the economy, long-term educational strategies and local manpower development.

In a letter to Gov. Juan N. Babauta, House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial and Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano, Tenorio particularly expressed concern over the worldwide lifting of quota restrictions by Jan. 1, 2005 and the impact this will have on the local garment industry; as well as the nascent movement among long-time nonresident workers who are pressing for permanent residency in the CNMI and the potential impact this may have on the indigenous population.

Tenorio said the CNMI's top elected officials, the Legislature, other elected officials and the CNMI community should meet in a "summit" to discuss replacement industries for the garment sector, prospects of future investment potentials, the islands' continuing reliance on nonresident workers and the future of these workers and their long term and potential permanent presence in the CNMI, among other things.

"I am greatly concerned about the future of the CNMI, and I think that it will take the best minds in the CNMI to solve some of these problems," he said. "When the Covenant was signed into law 28 years ago, we were somewhat naïve as to the possible ramifications

of some of our decisions or actions. We failed to exercise restraint in the growth of the garment industry, we neglected to follow global developments in trade and, in our quest for development and government revenues, we became shortsighted and failed to develop our most precious resource, our people. We have developed an economy that is completely dependent on nonresident workers."

On Jan. 1, 2005, under a World Trade Organization agreement, the current restrictions, i.e. quotas on the amounts of clothing and fabric that each country can export to the United States and the European Union will be eliminated. Once these restrictions are lifted it is expected that low-cost Chinese manufacturers will grab a major share of the more than \$400 billion global textile market. The U.S. textile industry has lost 350,000 jobs in the last three years, with many more expected to be lost in the coming years.

Five textile industry groups in the U.S. have filed safeguard petitions with the U.S. Department of Commerce to cap some of China's textile products aimed at the United States, claiming that China poses a significant threat to their existence. This move was backed by 51 countries that are also afraid of unbridled Chinese competition. If approved the caps would limit the annual

growth of Chinese imports to as little as 7.5 percent until 2008. This will bring some relief and a little breathing room.

At the same time, with the help of the Department of the Interior and its Business Opportunities Conference, Tenorio said the CNMI will see new investors and businesses coming in. He also projected an increase in the number of tourists visiting the islands, with China granting the Approved Destination Status to the Commonwealth.

"These will help mitigate the most likely decrease in our garment industry, but they will not be able to fill the void that will surely be created in our economy," he said.

Tenorio said the decline in the local garment industry will surely continue in the coming months. There are ways, he said, that the CNMI can explore to stem such a decline, including amending Headnote 3(a) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule to be more lenient, as well as amendments to the Buy American statutes for the Department of Defense to ensure the CNMI's eligibility to participate.

"But we also need to explore ways of dealing with approximately 25,000 garment workers who, over time, may lose their jobs. It is conceivable that many of their employers will be unable or unwilling to pay for their repatriation. It is also highly unlikely that our government will be able to repatriate them," he said.

The Washington representative also voiced concerns over current initiatives by nonresident workers to chal-

lenge restrictions of the Covenant on residency and U.S. citizenship. Tenorio was referring to some guest workers who have banded together to form a movement called "Decada," which intends to petition the U.S. Congress for permanent U.S. residency.

"I worry that many of our nonresident workers will never want to return to their home countries, and with the decline in the garment industry there will be no jobs for many of them," he said. "I fear that the number of nonresident unemployed will far exceed the number of those employed. This of course leads me to a greater fear of what the U.S. Congress may do regarding our current ability to regulate our own immigration."

This comes against a backdrop of what Tenorio describes as the "failure" of all elected leaders from the beginning of the Commonwealth to the present to secure successful and productive futures for the local people.

"Very few of the Chamorros and Carolinians of the CNMI desire employment in the private sector; they prefer the higher salaries and fringe benefits of our government payroll. The government payroll will not be increasing any time in the foreseeable future. More than likely, we will see reductions in budgets and the total number of positions decreasing. Where are our young people going to go for employment? How many millions of dollars have we spent over the last 28 years on scholarships and loans to our young people so that they may better

themselves through higher education? How many of these young energetic citizens have returned home to find that there are no jobs in our government, and those in the private sector pay very little and are generally reserved for nonresident workers?

"What have we done over the last 28 years to provide sound variable viable vocational education programs at our high schools and Northern Marianas College for those who don't want to go to college so that they can be trained to fill the positions held by nonresident workers? It is my understanding that the students who have benefited from what few programs that have been offered have ended up working in Guam or the mainland."

"Governor, Mr. Speaker and Mr. President, we are in a crisis that has been developing over the last 20 years. Determining where we went wrong, finding the culprit that led us to this point, and pointing fingers will not solve these problems. We will need to ask for help, but at this point in time, we do not even know what help is needed. It is time for us to gather the best minds in the Commonwealth to examine these and related problems and develop strategies and potential solutions to these problems.

"I ask that you and the Legislature call for a non-partisan summit to begin a thorough examination of the economic and educational indigenous people we must begin today or we may be looking at a future for our islands that does not resemble the home we grew up in."



Tenorio



BING CHAVEZ

IN APPRECIATION

Bobbie Winkfield, chairman of the Saipan Community Church's board of directors, presents a plaque of appreciation to associate pastor Ernie Pinzon and his wife Fe during Sunday night's despedida party. The Pinzons are leaving the CNMI for Canada after nearly five years on the islands. Others in the picture are members of the church's board of directors.

GOODBYE

Senior pastor Glen Jenkins of the Saipan Community Church presents a scrapbook that was put together by members of the congregation to associate pastor Ernie Pinzon and his wife Fe, who are leaving the islands for Canada after almost five years of faithful service to the church. The presentation was held Sunday night at the Saipan Community Church.

BING CHAVEZ

Island Snapshots

The Saipan Tribune accepts unsolicited photos of birthdays, weddings, baptisms, and other community and family events for free publication. Material submitted should be original and not copyrighted, in digital or print format. What includes a caption containing complete details (a description of the event, location of the persons in the picture, the date, and the place), the name of the contributor, and a contact number. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to edit the caption, the date of publication and the size of the picture. Contributors are e-mail their submissions to editor@saipantribune.com. To check if contributions are received, call 223-6207, 223-3446, or 223-4743.

CUC, House to meet again on fuel surcharge

By **LIBERTY DONES**
REPORTER

Despite its decision to go ahead with the fuel surcharge fee, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is still faced with a shortfall and has indicated that it will be going back to the Legislature to ask for financial assistance.

House Vice Speaker Timothy Villagomez, who chairs the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications, said that CUC officials would meet with House members today on the fuel surcharge issue.

“They’ve asked if we can

sit down and meet,” said Villagomez, even as he expressed disappointment over the CUC board’s decision to impose a 3.5 cents fuel surcharge fee for government and 1.5 cents for commercial and residential users.

“Unfortunately, the board went ahead and passed it at the time when we’re trying to pass legislation addressing the issue,” said Villagomez.

House leadership spokesman Charles Reyes Jr. said the meeting would also include Executive Branch officials.

“This is a long-term problem. It requires closer cooperation

between the three parties: the administration, CUC, and the Legislature,” he said.

The CUC earlier said that it would still face a monthly shortfall of \$450,000 despite the scheduled implementation of the fuel surcharge next month due to its decision to impose only 1.5 cent among residential and commercial customers, rather than 3.5 cents as originally proposed. CUC said it would only be collecting \$795,000 a month in surcharge fees instead of \$1.25 million.

CUC said it is counting on the administration or the Legis-

lature to cover the shortfall.

CUC currently charges 11 cents per kwh for households and non-profit groups and 16 cents per kwh for businesses and the government.

The Executive Branch earlier proposed to provide CUC a \$150,000 monthly government subsidy for up to four months.

The House, for its part, voted last week to impose a 4-cent fuel surcharge fee on the government and exempt other power users from such fee. The bill is now referred to the Senate for a similar passage.

House Bill 264 provides that

the government shall be charged a total of 20 cents per kilowatt hour: 16 cents will serve as payment for the electric bill, while 4 cents will be deposited into a Fuel Surcharge Account under the Department of Finance.

Villagomez, who authored the bill, pointed out that the government rate for electricity was originally 20 cents per kwh prior to 1992.

The bill limits the use of the FSF for fuel expenses and not for CUC’s operations.

“The funds can only be used

Bill to require English labels on products containing chemicals

The House of Representatives has passed a measure requiring that all chemical-containing products distributed within the Commonwealth be marked with English labels identifying their chemical contents.

House Bill 14-90, authored by Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb, seeks to require all products imported, sold, manufactured, or distributed within the Commonwealth to bear an English label identifying each chemical and chemical compound by the chemical name.

The bill notes that some products currently imported, sold, manufactured, or distributed within the CNMI bear labels in languages other than English.

“[This] poses a potential health hazard to the general public who may be unable to determine the contents of the products, particularly when the product contains irritants, carcinogens, corrosive, toxic or highly toxic chemicals,” a portion of the bill reads.

The bill tasks various agencies to implement the

measure once it is enacted.

The Attorney General’s Office, working with the Department of Commerce, Division of Environmental Quality, and Division of Customs, would adopt regulations implementing the law.

DEQ would conduct public education for a period of six months after the law takes effect. It would be Customs’ duty to issue orders and citations for violations occurring at the ports of entry to the CNMI, while DEQ would



















issue orders and citations for violations by persons with products already within the CNMI. *(Agnes E. Donato)*

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	CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
	Auckland	Cloudy	68 F (20 C)	52 F (11 C)
	Beijing	Sunny	41 F (5 C)	23 F (-5 C)
	Hong Kong	Sunny	74 F (23 C)	62 F (17 C)
	Honolulu	Showers	84 F (29 C)	72 F (22 C)
	London, England	Partly Cloudy	48 F (9 C)	36 F (2 C)
	Los Angeles	Sunny	67 F (19 C)	38 F (3 C)
	Manila	Thunder	85 F (29 C)	75 F (24 C)
	Melbourne	Sunny	85 F (29 C)	71 F (22 C)
	Miami	Sunny	83 F (28 C)	68 F (20 C)
	New York City	Cloudy	48 F (9 C)	42 F (6 C)
	Osaka	Sunny	53 F (12 C)	36F (2 C)
	Paris	Partly Cloudy	41 F (5 C)	33 F (1 C)
	Pusan	Sunny	58 F (14 C)	38 F (3 C)
	Rome	Cloudy	58 F (14 C)	46 F (8 C)
	Salem, Oregon	Showers	47 F (8 C)	36 F (2 C)
	San Francisco	Sunny	55 F (13 C)	40 F (4 C)
	Seoul	Sunny	45 F (7 C)	30 F (-1 C)
	Tokyo, Japan	Partly Cloudy	53 F (12 C)	42 F (6 C)
	Washington, DC	Cloudy	52 F (11 C)	35 F (2 C)

‘RP letter supporting Verizon deal authentic’

By JOHN RAVELO
REPORTER

Prospective Verizon buyer Pacific Telecom Inc. insisted yesterday on the existence and authenticity of a letter by the Philippine government to Gov. Juan N. Babauta, which expressed support for the company’s bid to take over the telecom firm’s operations from Micronesian Telecommunications Corp.

MTC general manager Tony Mosley said the letter was sent to the governor by mail. Both PTI’s Jose Ricardo P.R. Delgado, the company’s vice president for business development, and Mosley assured they would send another copy of the letter to the governor.

A recent news article quoted the governor as saying that he had not received any letter from the Philippine government, which backed PTI’s bid to purchase Verizon. It said the governor inquired about the letter at the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan, which was not reportedly aware of its existence.

The Babauta administration reportedly asked the consulate office to verify the existence and authenticity of the letter and why it had not been delivered through regular channels. It also asked about Philip-

pine regulations on foreign ownership in media and local transportation, especially in telecommunications.

Reacting to the news article, Delgado said that, while there are some restrictions on foreign equity investment in the Philippines, foreign ownership has proven to be doing well, citing the situation of the Asian country’s biggest telecom firm, the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co.

“PLDT, despite that rule, has a very complicated structure and is effectively owned and managed by foreigners [First Pacific],” Delgado said. “And PLDT is being run better than ever under foreign hands, by the way.”

“Moreover, there is the same thing in the United States where they only allow 25 percent of equity to be owned by foreigners,” Delgado said. “However, that is a federal rule, and that said, they did give PTI a full exemption because they deemed it to be in the public good.”

PTI and MTC sent a copy of the letter dated Sept. 27, 2004, to the *Saipan Tribune* on Nov. 14. It was signed by the republic’s Department of Trade and Industry’s acting secretary Thomas G. Aquino.

The letter supported PTI’s bid and asked the Babauta administration to have a “fair

stance” toward the Filipino-controlled company. “The Philippine government stands behind them, and will support them in their efforts,” Aquino said in the letter.

PTI stands to become one of the first Filipino-owned investments in the United States’ telecommunications industry if it finally takes over Verizon’s operations in the CNMI.

The letter claimed that the Philippine government has been closely watching developments in PTI’s pending application for approval of the telecom deal before the Commonwealth Telecommunications Commission, noting the prolonged process due to the CNMI governor’s reservations.

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Teen begins prison term for DUI conviction

By JOHN RAVELO
REPORTER

Raymond Blas, the teenager who was sentenced to jail for driving under the influence of alcohol and reckless driving in connection with a fatal vehicular mishap last year, showed up at the Department of Corrections yesterday to begin serving his sentence.

Grant Sanders, the government’s prosecuting attorney, said Blas went to jail as directed by the court, after the defendant failed to obtain a timely legal remedy from the Supreme Court.

Blas’ lawyer, Brien Sers Nicholas, had asked the High Court to temporarily freeze the sentence pending the determination of the defendant’s appeal of his conviction and sentence.

As of 3:30pm yesterday afternoon, the Supreme Court has yet to rule on Blas’ request for stay.

Trial court judge Juan T. Lizama imposed a partially suspended five-year-prison term on Blas for his conviction on DUI and reckless driving, giving him 18 months in jail time before he could be released on supervised probation to complete the entire five-year term.

In sentencing Blas earlier this month, Lizama directed

the defendant to report to the DOC yesterday to begin serving the sentence. The judge also sanctioned Blas with fines of \$1,000 and \$100 for DUI and reckless driving.

Blas was the driver of a pickup truck that slammed into a light post in the wee hours of Dec. 26, 2003. A 13-year-old boy, who was among the defendant’s passengers, was thrown out of the vehicle due to the impact. The victim later died.

Although Lizama convicted Blas of DUI and reckless driving, a six-man jury acquitted the teenager on a charge of vehicular homicide.

On appeal, Sers Nicholas is questioning the trial court’s conviction of Blas and the sentence imposed on him.

The lawyer contended that, since the jury found Blas not guilty of vehicular homicide, the same jury unanimously found the defendant to be in no violation of any traffic law. He said DUI and reckless driving were two traffic offenses that the jury was instructed to consider before handing down its verdict.

Blas underwent a jury trial for the vehicular homicide charge. The verdict on DUI and reckless driving charges, however, fell under the jurisdiction of the bench.

MTEC
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Some CPA employees to get bonus, not salary hike

By AGNES E. DONATO
REPORTER

Commonwealth Ports Authority employees who have reached the highest salary level for their position will be getting a 5-percent salary bonus this December.

These employees are excluded from the 5-percent pay increase that CPA granted its personnel starting in October, following several years of salary freeze.

CPA executive director Carlos Salas said some employees have

now reached the highest possible salary range for their position. While they could no longer receive further increases, the law entitles them to a 5-percent salary bonus every other year.

"It's a bonus given every other year to people who are stuck at the last step of their pay level," he said.

Salas, who was off-island when interviewed over the phone yesterday, said he did not have the exact number of employees who will be receiving the bonus.

In an earlier interview, Salas

said over 200 workers, who have a performance rating of "satisfactory" or better, stood to receive the 5-percent salary increase implemented last October.

He noted that this was the first time in four years that airport and seaport employees will be getting a salary hike. During these years, he added, CPA employees over the past several years have accepted cross-utilization in duties, more responsibilities, and an 8-hour reduction in working hours per bi-weekly period.

Contract employees, including Salas and other top management officials, are not covered by the salary increase.

The across-the-board salary hike is reflected in CPA's budget for fiscal year 2005 budget, which appropriates \$7.7 million for personnel expenses. This amount is 7 percent greater than the \$7.2 million that CPA set aside for personnel costs in FY 2004.

In the FY 2005 budget, CPA also bared plans to restore the original contribution rate of 50 percent—instead of the re-

duced CPA rate of 25 percent only—towards employees' health insurance premium, "should revenue comfortably exceed forecast and achieve the required debt service coverage ratio."

CPA noted that before the 9/11 tragedy, the authority paid 50 percent of the employees' premium but later greatly reduced it to 25 percent to generate significant savings to CPA.

"CPA management aims at reviewing the entire revenue and expense situation at a six-month period interval for the

possibility of restoring the original rate," CPA said. "Other measures to be considered at a later time are as follows: night differential, overtime pay, and contract employee salaries."

The ports authority forecasts a growth rate of not more than 2 percent for the airport division and zero for the seaport division.

"While we anticipate recovery in the travel market, our budget forecast is at minimal [level] in order for us to easily meet our financial target," CPA said.

Thai dancers entertain the crowd with an umbrella dance during Saturday's 6th Annual Loi Kratong Thai Festival at the Pacific Islands Club.

SHAN SEMAN



Preeyapa Pongthongkam, winner of the Nang Nopamas contest, smiles for the camera as judge Maggie Wonenberg pins her sash during Saturday's 6th Annual Loi Kratong Thai Festival at the Pacific Islands Club.

SHAN SEMAN

Thai culture takes the spotlight in festival

By SHAN SEMAN
REPORTER

The beach-side of the Pacific Islands Club was packed with hundreds of people Saturday night for the 6th Annual Loi Kratong Thai Festival.

According to Lek Algaier, one of the organizers for the event, the festival is a celebration dedicated to their goddess of water, recognizing the importance of water, honoring the flowing waters, rivers, and streams as well as celebrating the harvest season.

"This is a big festival in Thailand, and this year, we've been preparing for this for a long time," she said.

The festival was highlighted with three competitions, including the Nang Nopamas, Kratong, and Ramwong contests.

"Nang Nopamas is a mythi-

cal woman who supposedly was the first to practice the Loi Kratong—the making of a float and setting it out to float on water in a sense of taking away bad luck and bringing good luck," Algaier said.

The contest is similar to a beauty contest as participants dressed in traditional attire.

"It's about beauty, elegance, and culture," she said.

In all, 11 women participated in the contest, which ended with Preeyapa Pongthongkam wearing the winning crown, and Buarian Vichapon and Chawee-wan Onkok finishing as first and second runners-up.

The Kratong—float—contest was won by Somsa-ard Sirima, followed by Runchida Daengrakam and Sudarat Paul.

"They really put a lot of time into making the floats," Algaier said. "They have to be artistic, and must have a lot of patience."

One of the floats featured the carving of radish and carrots, flower pedals, and banana leaves sewn onto a banana trunk base.

The Ramwong contest—circle dance—is a dance competition open to all interested among the crowd.

"This festival is always big for the Thai community. We welcome everybody to learn about our culture, and it's basically for us to celebrate our festival and share our culture with everybody here. We're very thankful that we have the opportunity to be here," Algaier said.

"The Thai community is always looking to give back to the people of Saipan for everything that the community of Saipan gives to the Thai community. We Thais really enjoy living here and what we can do to make the community better, what we can do for the good of all CNMI is good for all of us," she said.

Victor Oswalt, who joined the celebration with several friends, said, "All of this is very interesting and I'm glad I can come here and be part of it, meet a lot of people, and learn. It's pretty interesting to see all the dances and traditions."

DAIICHI CLARET
+P213

DPW mulls trash collection as utility service

By JOHN RAVELO
REPORTER

Are you willing to pay less than \$15 a month for the government to collect trash from your doorstep?

This is part of a proposal by the Department of Public Works for a "universal trash collection" system, wherein government-hired haulers will regularly collect trash directly from homes to solve the widespread problem of illegal dumping.

The proposal cropped up in a meeting by the Solid Waste Task Force yesterday morning.

DPW's Solid Waste Management environmental planner Robert Jordan said the collection system is similar

to the practice in many parts of the United States and other countries.

"Over time, people will get used to it," Jordan said. "It would be convenient for people, too."

The proposal incorporates the installation of trash bins in every home. Jordan said there should be three bins in every home—one each for recyclable materials, green wastes, and regular household trash. Government-hired haulers will then pick up the trash from homes on a regular schedule weekly.

Jordan said the task force is still looking at the financial aspect of the project, considering the need to acquire hundreds of bins. He also

estimated that hauling services would cost the government about \$500,000 yearly.

Under the current system, residents or businesses go to the Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station or the Marpi landfill to dispose of their wastes. Even right now, Jordan said a substantial number of residents and businesses contract haulers to dispose of their trash at the transfer station or the landfill.

Jordan said there are also proposals to erect smaller transfer stations in Kagman and As Lito, but the projects could also be costly. Besides, he said the installation of those stations would not deviate from the current system, since residents

would have to go to those stations and dispose of trash by themselves.

"Once this [trash collection] system gets going, it's going to be effective," he said, adding that it would be self-supporting, with the minimal \$15 a month fee for trash collection.

He said the proposal could be implemented within a year's time once adopted, allowing the government to sufficiently educate the public about the new system.

Jordan said the proposal would also prevent new illegal dumpsites from sprouting after old dumping sites are restored.

The Solid Waste Task Force has committed itself to restore the sinkhole in Tuturam, San

Vicente—a 60-foot-deep, 40-foot wide natural geological formation that has served as a pit for dumping assorted trash for several decades after World War II.

Division of Environmental Quality environmental specialist Tina Sablan expressed concern that, while government agencies are pooling efforts to restore the site and possibly make it a tourist attraction, there is a nearby dumpsite where residents could divert disposal of their wastes.

"The government agencies would really like to see the sinkhole project as a model of involving the community in cleaning up illegal dumping sites and ridding the island of

illegal dumping," Sablan said.

She said the government has already communicated with the owners of the private land embracing the sinkhole, adding that the landowners have consented to the government's plan to do a cleanup.

Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente, the task force's chair, has pledged to erect a fence to prevent the public from improperly disposing of wastes at the sinkhole.

Sablan said government agencies—including DEQ, DPW, Coastal Resources Management Office, Saipan Mayor's Office, and the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service—would soon meet to plan the sinkhole cleanup.

5 charged for marijuana trafficking

By JOHN RAVELO
REPORTER

Authorities nabbed five men, including a government employee, for allegedly trafficking marijuana to Navy investigators who posed as buyers in separate operations conducted jointly with the Department of Public Safety.

Superior Court judge Juan T. Lizama yesterday imposed a \$60,000 bail on each of the five defendants, who face charges of trafficking and illegal possession of a controlled substance, and conspiracy.

Assistant attorney general Grant Sanders said four of the defendants work as security personnel at Garapan nightspots. The fifth defendant, Miguel Lieto, told the court that he is an employee of the CNMI's Agriculture division.

Police identified the four other suspects as Danny Kalen, Freely Ringlen, George Chamoke, and Eddie Kileman.

Documents submitted by police to the court showed that the defendants were nabbed pursuant to separate arrest warrants issued by Superior Court judge Kenneth Govendo, in three separate buy-bust operations last Nov. 9 and 10.

The defendants had allegedly planned to sell marijuana to

visiting sailors from the USS *Blue Ridge* at a street price of \$5 per stick.

Before the operations, special agents Michael A. Michell, Robert E. LeSane and Daniel N. Simpson of the U.S. Department of Defense's Naval Criminal Investigative Service met with police detective Andrew S. Taimanao regarding the planned operations.

During yesterday's bail hearing, Lizama said he would appoint lawyers to represent the defendants, who were apprised of their constitutional rights to remain silent and be represented in the case by attorneys.

Just before the hearing concluded, Lizama reminded the police officer escorting the defendants to stay alert, saying that there was a previous case wherein dissatisfied parties just jumped into the courtroom. A relative of two defendants stood from the gallery and tried to approach the bench, saying that he had property documents, apparently indicating that the two defendants would post a property bond.

Lizama instructed the man to show the documents to the two defendants' lawyers. When the man insisted on speaking, the judge directed the man to step out from the court.

DYS holds Christmas toy drive

The Division of Youth Services Volunteer Program is coordinating the annual Christmas Toy Drive for clients under the care of and or supervision of the Division of Youth Services.

DYS has been coordinating with different private businesses, government agencies and community members in the last several years to provide toys for DYS' needy clients in the spirit of the holiday season. Last year, there were over 600 toys collected and distributed to DYS clients.

This year the Volunteer Program's goal is to be able

to gather 800 toys to distribute among DYS clients. Several agencies and organizations have already committed some toys, depending on the number of individuals in their organization.

The Volunteer Program is inviting other interested organizations that would also like to take part in this project during this time of giving to lift the Christmas spirits of those in need.

"If you are interested in participating or need to inquire for more information, please call Vivian Sablan or Benlyin Mettao at 664-2584 or 664-2550," the agency said.

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Amelia Earhart: The mystery continues, with one secret disclosed

Part 1 of 3

Some residents new to Saipan and Tinian may not be familiar with some of the more intriguing aspects of the recent interest in locating some evidence of Amelia Earhart. The following may provide some background for those unfamiliar with many of the details of a story that continues to fascinate many.

For almost seven decades there has been much speculation as to what actually happened to the famous flyer. Many have searched for a solution to the mystery. None have been successful, but one search on Saipan did result in exposing a government secret.

While the recent attempt to locate the remains of aviatrix Amelia Earhart and her navigator Fred Noonan on Tinian were unsuccessful, two questions remain as to what happened to the famous pilot and why is much of the American public still interested after a period of 67 years. The first question is harder to answer than the second since no one knows for certain what actually happened. We do know that she was an American hero, and was in the vanguard of the women's liberation movement and was

married to a successful publicist which probably accounts for the initial interest in her attempt to complete an around-the-world flight in July, 1937. She almost made it.

Departing California she flew to Miami, Florida, and over a period of several weeks, she flew to Natal, Brazil, then to Dakar, Senegal, on Africa's west coast, thence across the continent to Assab, Eritrea, then on to Karachi and Calcutta, India; to Bandung, Indonesia; Darwin, Australia; and to Lae, New Guinea—for what was to become her last stop on her incomplete journey. Her next destination was to have been the desolate and uninhabited Howland Island, 2,227 nautical miles (2,563 statute miles) distant—there to refuel and rest. Then on to Hawaii another 1,650 n. mi. and later—to her starting point in California.

She had planned the Lae-Howland portion of the flight (or so it was announced) so that as she neared Howland Island she would be just south of the Equator skirting the southeastern edge of the forbidden area of the Japanese Mandated Islands in the Eastern Hemisphere in the vicinity of the Gilbert Islands.

When her last radioed message was received by the U.S.S. *Itasca*, a Coast Guard vessel on station off Howland, she had been flying 20 hours and 15 minutes with 30 minutes of fuel remaining since her departure from Lae. She was never heard from again.

There are some who believe that she may have intentionally departed from the much publicized flight route described above after she left Lae and did not fly directly toward Howland but secretly changed her course to fly 888 n. mi. north from Lae to the Truk Lagoon for the purpose of reconnoitering Japanese activities within the lagoon for the U.S. government. If so, she would then have to turn east and fly 1,063 n. mi. to the vicinity of Jaluit in the Marshall Islands, then fly in a southeasterly direction for 878 n. mi. to Howland. Total flight distance—2,829 n. mi. Almost all of the flight would be deep within the Japanese Mandated Islands. Did she have enough fuel for the extra 602 n. mi.? Many experts have stated that she did. Earhart's position report at 0720 hours GMT resulted in an approximate estimated time of arrival in the vicinity of Howland at approximately 2005 hours GMT or two hours later than originally

By WILLIAM H. STEWART
Special to the Saipan Tribune



anticipated from the Lae-Howland route.

If Amelia Earhart did in fact divert from her publicized flight path after departing Lae and fly over the Truk lagoon—she could be presumed to have been engaged in espionage. She would be America's own Mata Hari.

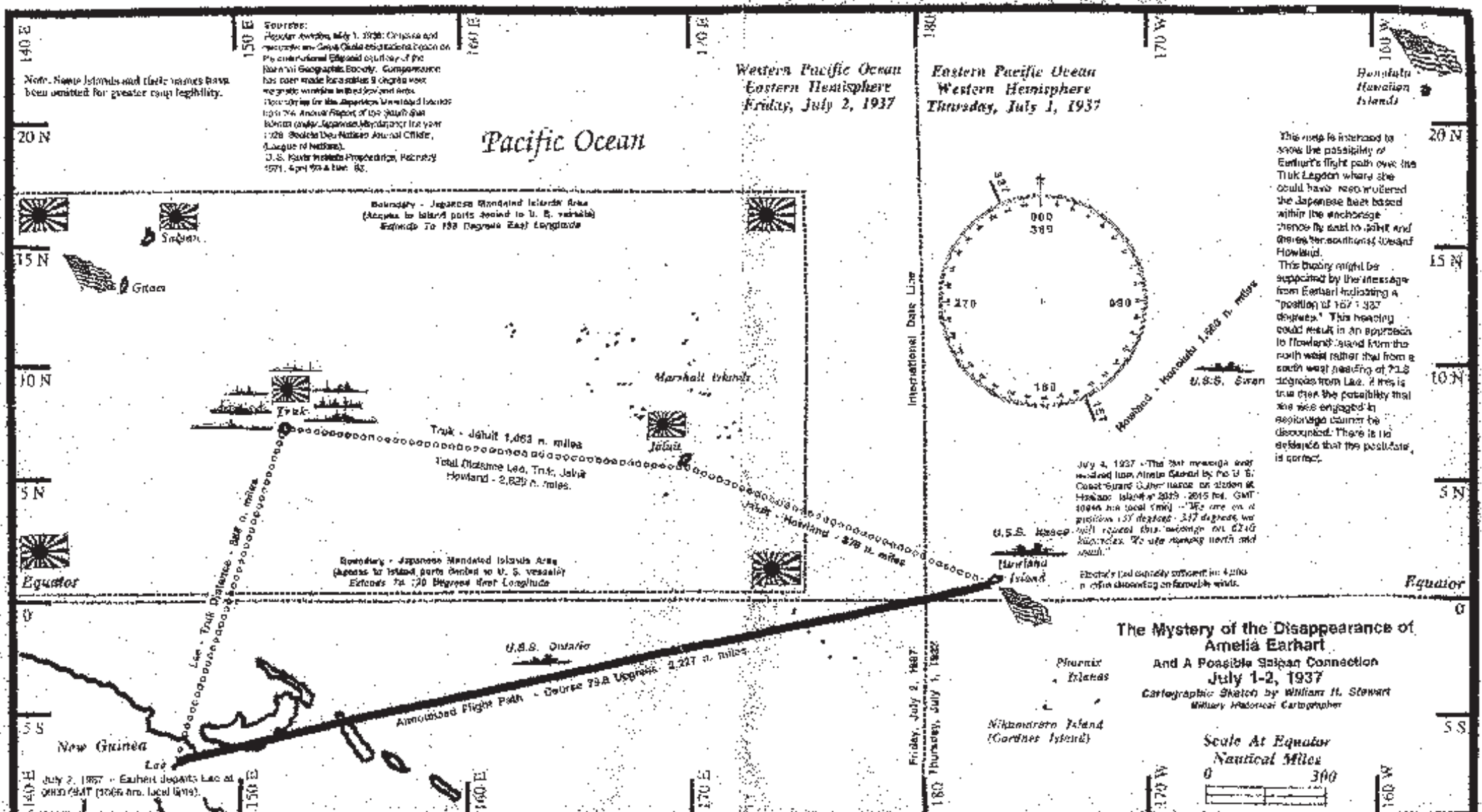
But what is the Saipan connection? No one knows for certain until concrete evidence can be found, if ever. The belief that she may have been captured by the Japanese and brought to Saipan after crashing somewhere in the Pacific has long been the subject of speculation and stories from presumed eye-witnesses.

To be continued

“There are some who believe that [Earhart] may have intentionally departed from the much publicized flight route described above after she left Lae and did not fly directly toward Howland but secretly changed her course to fly 888 n. mi. north from Lae to the Truk Lagoon for the purpose of reconnoitering Japanese activities within the lagoon for the U.S. government.”



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Opinion

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Letter to the Editor

21 arrested in Operation Street Sweep

By SHAN SEMAN
REPORTER

A total of 21 individuals believed to be involved in a crime ring were taken into custody Friday night after investigations conducted by various agencies led to warrants being issued for their arrest.

According to Department of Public Safety spokesman PO2 Eric F. David, 16 of the detainees were held in connection with burglary and theft and felony and theft incidents in San Antonio and Gualo Rai area.

David said 15 of the individuals were minors, one of whom was a female. All were detained at the Juvenile Detention Facility. The other, Alafonso Oncho, was detained at the

Adult Correction Facility in Susupe. Bail was set at \$15,000.

The investigation was headed by Thief Apprehension Selection Coalition detectives. The coalition comprises Criminal Investigation Bureau personnel, the Fire-Arson Investigation Unit, and Division of Youth Services Unit.

The operation also led to the arrest of five individuals believed to be involved in drug trafficking, courtesy of investigation conducted by the Special Investigation Section.

Arrested were Daniel L. Kalen, Miguel M. Lieto, Freely Ringlen, George Luis Chamoki, and Edwin S. Kileliman.

The suspects were held on \$60,000 cash bail.

David said the individuals were involved in trafficking marijuana. The

amount and value of the drugs were not disclosed.

David said Operation Street Sweep is conducted every month.

"Once we find out it's a ring operation, we compile everything, get as much information leading to arrest, and once it's reviewed, we give the matter to a judge and he signs document for arrests," he said.

David said a review hearing was held yesterday morning regarding the burglary, felony, and theft crimes and that several may have been released on property bond.

Those charged with drug trafficking, however, remain in jail.

David said the cases were worked on for about four months.

The TASC is headed by operational supervisor Hillary Tagabuel.

PAGANWATCH

From Page 1

wanted to know more about what happened at the Nov. 16 meeting, when the MPLA board decided to enter negotiations with Azmar.

"The whole thing at the last board meeting was just a little odd. The board went through a list of everything Azmar didn't do, they went to recess, and then in a complete turnabout, decided to hold secret talks with Azmar," Smith said in an interview. "We just would like to see what the public is entitled to see."

The *Saipan Tribune* tried but failed to reach either MPLA chair Ana Demapan-Castro or MPLA commissioner Edward Deleon Guerrero yesterday.

In his letter, Smith asked Demapan-Castro and Deleon Guerrero to make

the public records he requested available for inspection within 10 days, as required by law.

On top of his list are the minutes (including audio tapes and transcripts), agendas and all correspondence, notices, and reports from MPLA board meetings on April 15, June 24, Aug. 13, Aug. 17, Nov. 16 and any other meetings this year at which the board discussed Azmar and/or mining on Pagan.

Smith also requested to inspect the notes or papers read by the chairwoman and board member Nick Nekai at the Nov. 16 board meeting after they emerged from a recess in the back room and Nekai made his motion to enter negotiations with Azmar.

Further, Smith sought access to all public records "relating to the matter of mining and mining permits and applications in the CNMI and on Pagan."

These include, but are not limited to, the findings reports prepared by the MPLA staff on Azmar's application, compliance reports, correspondence, as well as records relating to the MPLA staff investigations and subsequent recommendation to the MPLA board to deny the Azmar mining permit request.

Lastly, Smith requested to examine all public records relating to, and including, the mining permits, leases, licenses and other agreements between MPLA—and its predecessors—and JG Sablan—and its assignees and affiliates.

These include, but are not limited to, all compliance and inspection reports, staff recommendations, letters of default and notices of violation, amendments, correspondence, and all other public documents showing the history status and monitoring of JG Sablan mining efforts on Pagan.

ADOPT-A-SERVICE MEMBER

From left, Lt. Dan Hudson, Diving Officer and Force Protection Officer of the nuclear submarine USS Oklahoma City, Nick Rolls, and HMC (SS) Jeff Martin, Corpsman, pose for a shot after a great dive at one of Saipan's premier dive spots, Obyan Beach, on Sunday. Rolls hosted the visiting sailors as part of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Sponsor-a-Service Member program, where local families sign up to share a good home-cooked meal or barbeque with service members visiting Saipan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FEDS

From Page 1

would face in implementing the program. These, he said, include ensuring that proper background security checks are completed prior to the entry of tourists into the CNMI and exercising caution in bringing in tourists that may be a liability in relation to local immigration control.

"We also agreed that this is a new market, a relatively uncharted market for the CNMI. This presents both challenges as well as great opportunities," said Babauta.

The governor earlier said that Cohen has accepted his invitation to attend the ADS signing between China and the CNMI next month. He said Cohen's presence would give the ceremony "the high profile it deserves."

Latest information from Beijing indicated that the ADS signing would take place on Dec. 21.

Authorities projected that the CNMI will benefit greatly from the China market beginning this year.

Regional economist Wali M. Osman, who now works for DOI, said in his May 2004 Update on the

Economies of Guam and the CNMI Report that beyond the uncertainty surrounding the garment industry, a somewhat longer-term prospect for the CNMI looks more promising mainly because of the emergence of China as a regional tourist supplier.

Also, he said that since CNMI-bound tourists do not need U.S. visas—as they do to enter Guam—the CNMI has the advantage of receiving Chinese tourists any time.

The Pacific Asia Travel Association said Chinese spending on travel is predicted to reach \$100 billion by 2008.



LIBERTY DONES

ISLAND VISITORS

Guam visitors Ophelia Orak, front left, Melinda Guieb, left most, pose with their Saipan friends Cherlyn Cabrera, second row, and Lee Lorzano, right, during a church anniversary celebration on Nov. 26.

SOME

From Page 1

ery 15 days. There are some 2,389 retirees in the CNMI, including 600 surviving spouses and dependents.

The Fund releases about \$938,000 solely for pensions every 15 days. Reyes said this amount would go up by January 2005 in view of a 2 to 2.7 percent implementation of cost of living allowance. COLA is given to retirees aged 55 and above.

He said the COLA adjustment for next year would translate to an additional \$80,000 payment for the retirees.

Double dipping drains the government's retirement system funds as it allows the employer, which is the government, to pay the member or a retiree twice in terms of pension benefits and salaries.

Currently, the CNMI laws only allow "double dipping" in certain professions such as teaching and medical job where there are a shortage of personnel.

POWERFUL

From Page 1

the 3:32 a.m. (1832 GMT) quake but there were no immediate reports of damage from the temblor or waves, police said.

Japan's Meteorological Agency quickly issued a tsunami warning and an evacuation order for the eastern shores of Hokkaido's Pacific coastal area. Tsunami are potentially dangerous waves triggered by seismic activity.

But agency official Masahiro Yamamoto told a televised news conference that the agency had lifted its warning and canceled the evacuation order an hour later, after detecting only a 10 centimeter (4-inch) tsunami.

The agency predicted only slight changes in the ocean's surface, Yamamoto said.

The quake was centered off Hokkaido's east coast, about 890 kilometers (550 miles) northwest of Tokyo, 48 kilometers (30 miles) below the sea surface. The rocking was felt throughout northern Japan, including Hokkaido's largest city, Sapporo, and Kushiro, a city on the island's eastern shore.

The initial tremor was followed by about a half dozen aftershocks, the largest of which measured a magnitude 4.5.

"We expect ... aftershocks to continue for about one week, but no big tremors should occur," Yamamoto said. A quake of this magnitude only happens about once every decade, he added.

National broadcaster NHK showed footage of desks rumbling in their offices and convenience store goods thrown

from shelves by the force of the quake.

Most of the injuries were in the cities of Kushiro, Nemuro and Bekkaicho. An 81-year-old woman living in Nemuro was thrown to the floor and treated for a broken arm, and several others, mostly elderly, had suffered minor injuries such as cuts from falling objects or broken glass, Hokkaido prefectural police spokesman Tsuneo Sasaki said.

More than 400 homes in Hokkaido temporarily lost power and natural gas services, but those were later restored, Sasaki said.

Nemuro city had issued an evacuation order to residents in several thousand homes near the shore, city spokesman Atsushi Maeda said. It was rescinded after authorities lifted the tsunami alert.

Cracks were discovered at the city's docks and at least two schools had broken windows and cracked water pipes, Maeda said.

Railway services on several lines in Hokkaido were suspended, but later resumed, according to NHK.

A magnitude 7 earthquake can cause widespread and serious damage if centered in a heavily populated area. Monday's quake was centered deep enough below the ocean floor that much of its power was absorbed by the time its tremors reached land.

Last month, a 6.8-magnitude earthquake and several large aftershocks in northern Niigata prefecture killed 40 people and damaged over 16,000 homes. That quake was the deadliest to hit Japan since 1995, when a 7.2-magnitude quake killed 6,000 people in the western city of Kobe.

Business

Tepid start to holiday shopping season

NEW YORK (AP)—The start of the holiday season was respectable but unimpressive for many of the nation's retailers, with consumers jamming stores and malls on Friday and pulling back as the weekend wore on.

Big chains including J.C. Penney Co. Inc. and Sears, Roebuck and Co. were pleased with their sales. But Wal-Mart Stores Inc. was less fortunate—the industry leader said its sales in the seven days that ended Friday were disappointing, and the company lowered its sales forecasts for November.

"Friday overall was strong, but Saturday was weak and disappointing, so together it was only a modest two-day performance," said Michael P. Niemira, chief economist at International Council of Shopping Centers. "Still, I continue to believe that this is not a bellwether for how the season will end up."

Wally Brewster, spokesman at Chicago-based General Growth Properties, which operates 224 malls in 44 states, said sales and traffic were strong on Friday, but "stabilized" the rest of the weekend. As a result, he expects sales for the weekend to increase in the low single digits, in line with modest expectations.

Wal-Mart's holiday weekend sales suffered because it didn't offer the deep discounts it did in past years, hoping to boost profits, analysts said. Penney and Sears did better by wooing customers with two days of big price breaks.

"Wal-Mart was a big loser because they didn't get the same numbers of early bird shoppers as they did a year ago," said



Kelsey Reynoso, a two-year-old girl, looks at toys in a catalog, as her family lines outside the KB Toys store inside the Glendale Galleria mall Friday, Nov. 26, 2004, in Glendale, Calif.

C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, based in Charleston, S.C. "The retailers that won this weekend were the ones that were super aggressive in special purchases and special pricing."

Wal-Mart said Saturday it now expects same-store sales in November to be up only 0.7 percent, instead of the projected

2 percent to 4 percent.

Without any must-haves in apparel and toys, the main attractions were electronics, particularly flat-screen TVs and DVD players, benefiting stores like Best Buy Co. Inc. and Circuit City Stores Inc. Marshal Cohen, senior industry analyst at NPD Group Inc., a market research company in Port

coming to Treasury. He developed the "Taylor rule," a formula designed to aid the Fed in setting interest rates. He has had trouble making an impact on administration economic policy in his current job.

Bernanke, 50, is viewed as the dark horse. Little known outside academic circles before coming to the Fed board in August 2002, Bernanke has impressed veteran Fed watchers who have started to read his speeches carefully for insights into Fed thinking on a range of economic issues.

Many believe that Greenspan will play a large role in choosing his successor.

"I think that Greenspan will have an unusually large influence on the selection process given his close relationship with Vice President Cheney, going all the way back to the Ford administration," said David Jones, author of four books on the Greenspan Fed.

Investors hope for strong retail reports

NEW YORK (AP)—Will Wall Street wrap up another year-end rally in time for the holidays? A key job creation report and the strength of the weekend's shopping kickoff will determine the rally's fate in the week ahead.

Retail stocks will certainly move on Monday as reports from the weekend's sales come in, but investors also will look closely to see if consumers are spending enough to revive the sluggish economic growth seen in the second half of the year.

Friday's job creation report from the Labor Department is also considered a measure of consumer spending, since more people working means more people with spending money and more economic activity. October's report showed a substantially higher than

expected 337,000 jobs created. For November, Wall Street is expecting at least 200,000 new jobs. Another positive surprise, combined with a good showing from retailers, could bolster stocks through year's end.

Last week, holiday-shortened trading and little news left only investors' bullishness to push stocks modestly higher. For the week, the Dow Jones Industrial average rose 0.62 percent, the Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 1.05 percent, and the Nasdaq composite index was up 1.51 percent.

ECONOMIC NEWS:

While the jobs report on Friday will dominate economic discussion in the week ahead, a number of other important reports have the potential to move the market.

On Monday before the

trading session begins, the Commerce Department was expected to release its preliminary gross domestic product figures for the third quarter. Wall Street is expected GDP to rise 3.7 percent, the same increase posted for the second quarter of the year.

The Conference Board will issue its consumer confidence index reading for November at 10 a.m. Monday. This key measure of consumers' feelings toward the economy is expected to come in at 96.8, up from the 92.8 reading in October.

Finally, on Wednesday, the Institute for Supply Management will release its manufacturing index, which measures the nation's overall industrial activity. Analysts expect a reading of 57 for November, up slightly from October's reading of 56.8.

Washington, N.Y., suspects that many mall-based apparel retailers "took it on the chin."

Niemira, who serves as an adviser for ShopperTrak, which tallies sales results

from 30,000 outlets and which released sales data for Friday, said a clearer picture of how the Thanksgiving weekend fared will emerge Thursday. That's when the nation's re-

tailers report their same-store sales figures for November. Same-store sales, or sales at stores open at least a year, are considered the best indicator of a retailer's performance.

Financial world focuses on next Fed chief

WASHINGTON (AP)—While President Bush is busy putting together his Cabinet for a second term, the financial world's attention is on a job vacancy 14 months away: Who will succeed Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan?

It might seem daunting to follow a legend like Greenspan, now in his 18th year in the job. Yet there seem to be plenty of people who would like to do it.

The list of candidates being talked about in Washington and on Wall Street is half what it was before the Nov. 2 election, when prominent Democrats such as former Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin were considered hot prospects had Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry won the White House.

With Bush's re-election, the focus is on Republicans. Candidates include Harvard economics professor Martin Feldstein, chairman of the Council of

Economic Advisers during the Reagan administration; Columbia University professor Glenn Hubbard, who was Bush's first CEA chairman; Treasury Undersecretary John Taylor; and Federal Reserve board member Ben Bernanke.

Handicappers generally put Feldstein, 65, at the top of the list, in part because he is the best known. He has had a distinguished teaching career at Harvard and served from 1982 to 1984 as chairman of the CEA, a post that Greenspan used as a stepping stone to the Fed job.

Some believe Hubbard, at 46 the youngest on the list, might have an inside track because of his strong support for Bush's tax cuts. Also, doubts linger among some conservative GOP supply-siders about Feldstein, given his reputation as a deficit hawk.

Taylor, 57, gained prominence as a monetary expert at Stanford University before

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Life & Style

By **JIM SHEA**
The Hartford Courant

Shea is a columnist for
The Courant.



Why can't chick flicks be more like guy flicks?

It's a typical Saturday morning, and after ruling out any and all plans for the evening that might require even half an iota of effort, we decide to go to a movie.

This is where the problems begin.

This is where all agreement ends.

This is why we don't go to the movies that much.

For her, a good movie involves stuff like a plot, interesting relationships, intelligent dialogue, romantic interludes and kissing, some of which doesn't even lead to sex.

Oh, and don't let me forget the tear-jerker element. I swear, the harder she's sobbing, the better the time she's having.

I'll never understand this.

I mean, if there is anything more boring than having to deal with your own feelings, it has to be shelling out 9 bucks to watch some fictional character get in touch with his.

No, my movie needs are more basic.

I'm looking for action, of course, the more mayhem the merrier, fistfights, gunplay, colorful explosions, car chases and against-all-odds feats of derring-do.

Outside of revenge, I'm not all that fussy about the plot, don't care much for relationship development beyond macho bonding, and believe there is an undeniable link between good dialogue and bad language.

As for romance, I'm all for it, as long as it involves nudity—female nudity. Like most men, I find male movie nudity not only gratuitous but responsible for more shrinkage than a cold shower.

The problem is that Hollywood doesn't release many middle-ground films. It's either a chick flick or a kaboom fest.

This is unfortunate, because it really wouldn't take much to turn out movies that appeal to both camps.

Take "Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason." Only two kinds of men are going to go to this movie:

The duped.

And the whipped.

But with just a little tweaking, this yawner could attract a respectable male audience.

How hard would it be, for example, to have Bridget pack a little heat, or include a scene in which Hugh Grant dies a horrible death or, for that matter, to have cast someone in better shape than Renee Zellweger—I'm thinking Pamela Anderson—in the starring role?

Conversely ...

The Tom Cruise movie "Collateral," about a sociopath hit man who rides around in a cab killing people, might be a bit on the dark side. But I think this would be a pretty easy movie to warm-and-fuzzy-up to. All you'd have to do is toss in Meg Ryan, a cute kid and maybe a soundtrack to accompany the executions—"Knocking on Heaven's Door?"—and you know what you're looking at?

Nothing short of a bloody blockbuster romantic comedy.

How to dress to impress for reunions

By **JANELLE ERLICHMAN DIAMOND**
THE WASHINGTON POST

You are home for the holidays and all the memories in your old bedroom are a gigantic reminder that your high school reunion is just around the corner.

Mandi Norwood, editor-in-chief of Shop Etc. magazine, says there are five rules for reunion-worthy clothes:

RULE 1

"You want to look successful," she says. Even if life has not gone according to plan, "don't reveal those pitfalls in the middle of the reunion." Try a rich brocade fabric or classic wrap dress and accessorize with a delicate pair of diamonds, "not over-the-top bling-bling."

RULE 2

Wear strategic frocks. Sure, you're not as rake-thin as you were in high school—cloak the flab with flattering A-line skirts and bracelet-length sleeves. And use rich hues. "A jolt of color really breaks up the bulk," says Norwood.

RULE 3

Look youthful—not juvenile. Find that happy medium between low-rise jeans and double-breasted suits.

RULE 4

"For goodness' sake, be comfortable." Norwood's no-no list includes: stilettos, snug-fitting clothing and bulky items. Try light layers that you can peel off discreetly, like cardigans, shawls or shrugs.

RULE 5

"Follow the kiss rule—keep it simple and sexy." Don't overdo jewelry. Don't experiment. "Go with what you know works," she says. "When all is said and done, a great bag and great shoes—that's what all the other women will be checking out."



Make a classy reunion impression: Max Studio cashmere sweater (\$78) and Palmer Jones handsewn jacquard pattern skirt (\$600).

THE WASHINGTON POST

Make a classy reunion impression: Notations blazer (\$49) and Daisy Fuentes camisole (\$49) and rhinestone pant (\$49).

THE WASHINGTON POST

A rich brocade fabric or deep color says "success." Here, an In the Now Bordeaux coat (\$583) and aubergine dress (\$375).

THE WASHINGTON POST

Saatchi, Tate Modern argue on collection

LONDON (AP)—Britain's leading modern art collector and its most famous gallery exchanged allegations Sunday about the fate of a messy bed, a pickled shark and other icons of the 1990s "Brit Art" movement.

Charles Saatchi, the collector whose patronage helped artists including Tracey Emin and Damien Hirst shoot to fame, claimed he had offered to give the Tate Modern gallery his entire collection, valued at 200 million pounds (US\$380 million), but that the offer had been refused.

Tate Modern said Sunday that Saatchi had offered to lend, not donate, the artworks.

In an interview with the Sunday

Telegraph newspaper, Saatchi accused the Tate, Britain's most famous modern art gallery, of lacking "an adventurous curatorial ambition" and interest in "Britain's recent artistic achievements."

Saatchi, who owns a gallery just along the River Thames from the Tate's imposing converted power station, said that last October he had offered the Tate his collection, which includes iconic pieces such as Emin's "My Bed"—strewn with cigarette butts, used condoms and empty vodka bottles—and Hirst's shark suspended in formaldehyde.

"The Tate seems sadly disengaged from the young British art community," Saatchi was quoted as saying.

Saatchi, 61, is married to chef and cookbook writer Nigella Lawson, whose brother Dominic Lawson is editor of the Sunday Telegraph.

Tate Modern said Saatchi had offered to loan his collection of 2,500 works, but that expensive renovations would have been needed to house them.

A Tate spokeswoman said there was never any suggestion that the collection was being offered as a gift.

She said a gift offer of major works from Saatchi's collection would be a generous gesture, much welcomed by Tate trustees. They have always made it clear they would be very pleased to acquire, by gift or purchase, major works from the Saatchi

collection, the spokeswoman said on customary condition of anonymity.

Last month Saatchi announced he was stripping his London gallery of the provocative "Brit Art" installations that made his name and replacing them with works in the more traditional medium of painting.

Pieces by Emin, Hirst and others are not due to return to the gallery until 2007.

Saatchi, who lost more than 100 works in a warehouse fire in May, told the Telegraph he had changed his mind about the gift.

"Now the mood has passed, I'm happy not to have to visit Tate Modern, or its storage depot, to look at my art," he was quoted as saying.

Tequila has an identity crisis in Mexico

By MARK STEVENSON
AP WRITER

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Tequila is suffering an identity crisis: The original poor man’s liquor has earned status and trademark protection, but now must fight to defend its name and its niche in a fickle international marketplace.

Mexican authorities are working at two levels—to shut out the imitators, while at the same time legalize flavored varieties, at the risk of enraging the purists. Watermelon flavor? In a globalized world, it seems, anything goes.

The problems started in the 1990s when tequila’s popularity soared, creating a scarcity of its

source, the agave plant. Agave prices soared by 1,600 percent, tequila production dropped by about a quarter, and the price of a good tequila shot above \$20 per bottle.

So began the agave rush. Mexican farmers planted so many that prices are falling again, threatening a tequila glut in about three years.

Now the Tequila Regulatory Council has proposed following vodka’s example and allowing flavoring—though not in the pure, 100 percent agave variety, only in the lesser blends.

Flavoring isn’t expected to be a big hit in Mexico.

“The consumer here is very demanding and very traditionalist,” said Alberto

Becharano of the Tequilas de La Donas distillery.

But Dave McQueen’s Nevada-based Tukys company plans to start selling five flavors of tequila—watermelon, lime, coffee, strawberry and orange - in the United States this year.

“The only ones who don’t like it are the Mexicans,” he said.

Taste tests in the United States indicate the flavored products like watermelon margaritas are a hit among women aged 21 to 35.

That demographic has even mainline bottlers interested.

“We see this as a business opportunity,” said Cristobal Mariscal, external affairs director for Jose Cuervo, one of the largest tequila makers.

Mariscal, however, refused to confirm whether Cuervo is working on a flavor line.

While the flavored tequilas may soak up part of the agave glut, there is a bigger problem: thousands of farmers who grow agave in states that fall outside tequila’s 1997 domain-area law.

During the agave shortage, these farmers began producing new, cheaper drinks with made-up names like “distilled agave” or “elixir of agave.”

The Tequila Regulatory Council has now asked the government to crack down on the near-tequilas and plans a poster

But makers of near-tequila “are using symbols and terms that refer to tequila, like ‘100 percent agave’ and ‘reposado’

distinguish where the agave was grown, and I don’t think there are many people who can.”

His company makes a smooth, 100 percent agave liquor from plants grown outside the domain area, and a “destilado,” a 51-percent agave drink. Becharano acknowledged the new breed of products should be regulated, but said overprotection would hurt farmers from non-tequila regions.

Jose Cuervo’s Mariscal suggested the new agave drinks could be identified as mescal.

But Becharano noted that mescal has an overpowering taste which has prevented it from gaining much popularity outside Mexico; nor has the marketing gimmick of putting a worm in the bottle helped it much.



campaign urging consumers to buy only the real thing.

Elitist? Not at all, insisted Ramon Gonzalez, the council’s director.

“We’re going to have products for every social class,” he pledged. “We’re not going to abandon the common man here in Mexico, because that’s where tequila’s roots are.”

(aged) and we feel they are deceiving the public,” he said.

“If you ask anybody about agave, they think tequila. But these drinks have nothing to do with tequila.”

Becharano insisted there’s no difference.

“I can tell a lot of things about a tequila from tasting it,” said Becharano, “but I can’t

At any rate, most destilados stay in Mexico, aimed at a market that cannot afford tequila.

Some are of such dubious quality they are believed to be crudely blended in plastic basins in private homes. One such bottler—who had no listed number—gave his product a name apparently intended to match the liquor’s effects: “Vertigo.”

National Gallery shows printed portrait

WASHINGTON (AP)—More than five centuries ago, a German printer reproduced the face of St. Bernardine of Siena.

Still verifiable from the Italian preacher’s death mask in Aquila, northeast of Rome, the image has become the earliest known print that depicted the subject exactly as he appeared, said Andrew Robison of the National Gallery of Art.

When the unidentified German made the print, many people were alive who had seen St. Bernadine, who died in 1444, six years before Johann Gutenberg’s invention of movable type was revolutionizing printing.

The portrait is in a new display at the National Gallery that will be on view through May 30, 2005: “Six Centuries of Prints and Drawings: Recent Acquisitions.”

The gallery is open every day except Christmas, with free admission.

Robison, in charge of prints and drawings at the gallery, said the portrait of St. Bernardine is among many unique works the gallery has acquired in the past five years. It now has close to 100,000 on paper, and the total grows at about 1,000 a year.

“If I looked it up in the computer and gave you a more accurate figure, it would be out of date in a month,” said Robison, who is leaving next week on a European trip. He expects to come back with new finds.



This image released by the National Gallery of Art shows a 15th century engraving of St. Bernardine is considered the first print in western art to show a celebrity as he actually looked.

They come as gifts, bequests and purchases from a special fund given by private donors.

A book in the display published in Mainz, Germany, in 1486, is titled, in Latin, “A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.” It contains the first known realistic print of an identifiable building,

the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

It still looks much as it did then, Robison said.

That work also is the first travel book with illustrations and the first printed book of any kind with foldouts and with illustrations by a known painter,

Erhard Reuwich. A foldout print of the city of Venice is more than four feet long, with many remaining buildings and canals that are still easy to identify.

The show includes one of the earliest multicolor etchings, a snake and butterfly from the late 1600s.

Robison also has snagged some rarities from later periods, including a unique print by Giovanni Batista Piranesi, a great recorder of Roman ruins in the 1700s. “The Aqueduct of Nero,” was signed in the artist’s hand before an engraved caption and signature were added.

Animal lovers can admire a study of bones and muscles that appeared in 1742 with Europe’s first realistic picture of a rhinoceros, as a background to depictions of human skeletons. The rhinoceros was the first of its species to arrive in Europe, as a permanent exhibit in the Amsterdam zoo. Before that, Europeans had only images of the rhinoceros based on a depiction more than 200 years earlier by the great German artist Albrecht Durer. He apparently had not seen the astonishing animal and didn’t quite understand how one was built.

Pablo Picasso’s copper plate etching “A Frugal Repast” appears in an unusual form. It is one of only two known surviving Picasso impressions printed in dark blue-green ink, a color favored in his paintings of a century ago, his famous “blue period.”

WALLACE

It's a girl, and a boy, for Julia Roberts

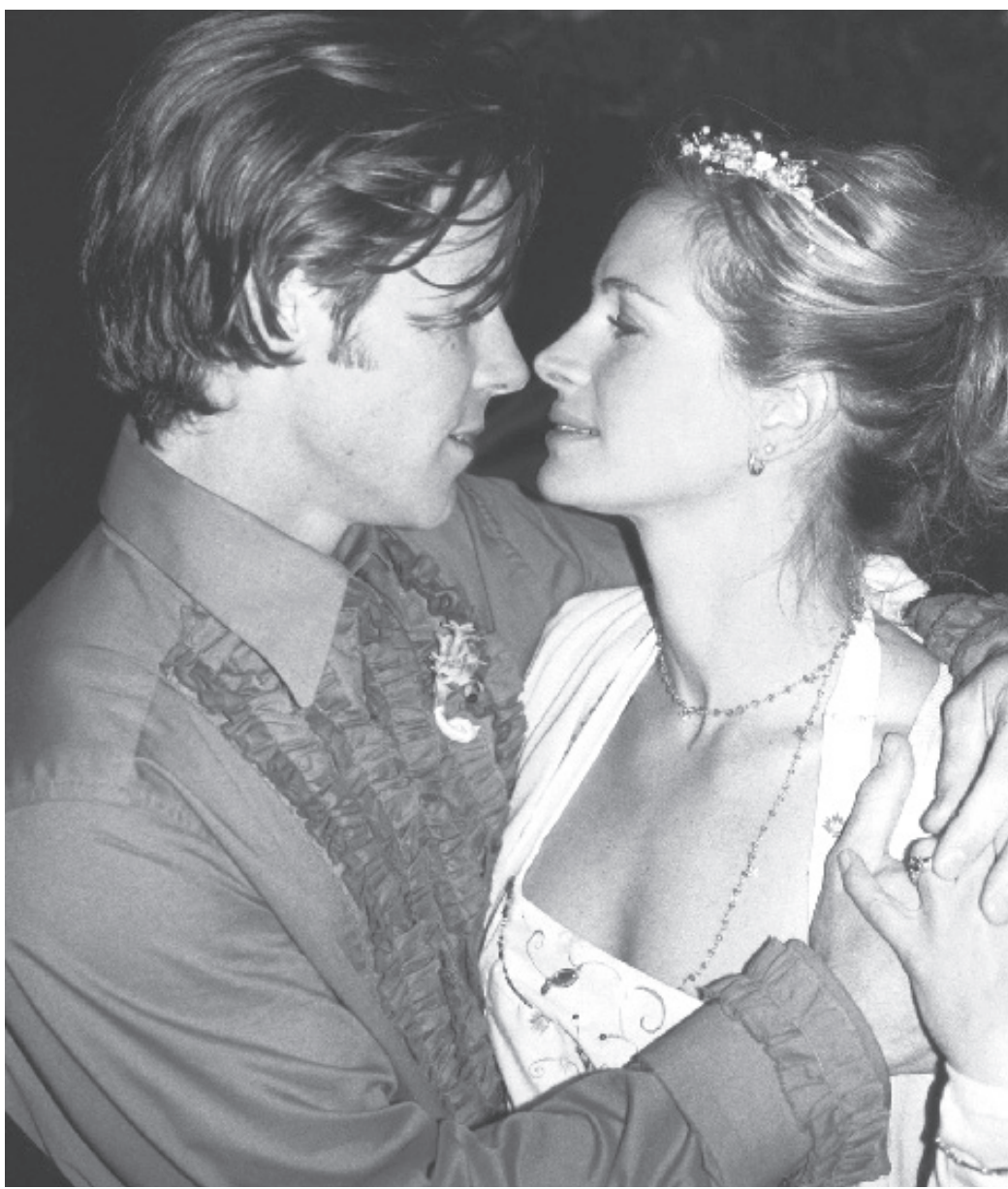
LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's a girl—and a boy—for actress Julia Roberts and her husband, cinematographer Danny Moder. Roberts gave birth to twins Hazel Patricia Moder and Phinnaeus Walter Moder on Sunday morning at a Southern California hospital, publicist Marcy Engelman said Sunday.

Roberts, 37, was confined to bed last month after experiencing a series of early contractions and wasn't due until early January. Engelman said Sunday in a phone interview that "mother and babies are doing great," but didn't release the twins' weights or other details.

Roberts, who skyrocketed to fame with "Pretty Woman" in 1990, has two films coming out in early December—Mike Nichols' "Closer" and "Ocean's Twelve," the Steven Soderbergh-directed sequel to 2001's star-studded heist caper.

Roberts married Moder in July 2002 at her home in Taos, N.M. The twins are the first children for Roberts, who won the best actress Oscar in 2001 for "Erin Brockovich."

Actress Julia Roberts and her cameraman boyfriend Daniel Moder kiss during their wedding ceremony in this Thursday, July 4, 2002 file photo, at her 40-acre estate outside Taos, N.M.



Mike Nichols gets 'Closer'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Director Mike Nichols likes to talk about what's floating around in his head, but longtime partner Diane Sawyer won't always play that game.

Sawyer "doesn't answer the infamous question, 'Honey, what are you thinking?'" says the 73-year-old director.

Nichols told the Chicago Sun-Times for a Sunday story that Sawyer told him his new movie "Closer" is about the importance of lying, "or 'That's why she doesn't answer the 'what are you thinking' question. She wonders, 'Do you have the right to know what's in the other person's head even if you love them?'"

In "Closer," Julia Roberts stars as a photographer who is cheating on her not-so-nice doctor husband, played by Clive Owen. Roberts' character is having a fling with an obit writer played by Jude Law, who is lying to his much younger muse of a girlfriend, who works in a strip club that Owen's character frequents.

"We've all heard those fatal words in a relationship where someone says, 'Just tell me. I promise I won't be mad. I just want the answer,'" Nichols says. "Clive Owen asks his wife that question in 'Closer,' but he really doesn't want the answer because it's just a slide into great pain."

Leann voted off 'Survivor: Vanuatu'

NEW YORK (AP)—The fiery female alliance on CBS' "Survivor: Vanuatu—Islands of Fire" flickered, sending research assistant Leann Slaby off the island.

"I got blindsided," Slaby told The Associated Press of her surprising dismissal. "My brain was kind of frozen at the moment. It took me awhile to get the wheels running."

Sparked by Twila Tanner, lone male player Chris Daugherty created a voting bloc with unpopular player Eliza Orlins, Scout Cloud

Lee and Tanner to vote Slaby, a critical member of the all-female alliance, out of the game Thursday and into the jury.

"I trusted Twila from day one," Slaby said Friday. "Twila and I stuck together even when the tribes split and when we got back together. But Twila mixed it up. I'm not sure what her motivation was unless she just lost trust in us. Twila always played the game very paranoid, which maybe is a good thing."

Early in the gender-divided

game, Slaby also aligned herself with Ami Cusack, a player whom many "Survivor" castoffs have called the mastermind behind the all-female alliance, which sent four men out of the game.

"The fact of the matter was this game was split by sex from the very beginning," Slaby said. Cusack, who won immunity, was unable to be voted off by the new alliance.

"Ami and I thought we had it all wrapped," Slaby told the AP. "I guess I was too confident."

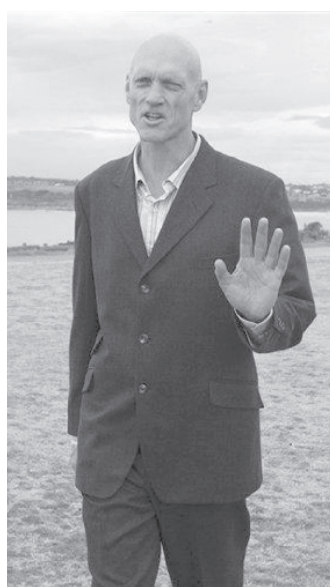
Ex-Midnight Oil singer hospitalized

SYDNEY, Australia (AP)—Australian rock star-turned-lawmaker Peter Garrett was hospitalized after collapsing on a Sydney beach following a morning swim, authorities said. Garrett, former lead singer of Midnight Oil, was taken by ambulance to Prince of Wales Hospital after collapsing on Maroubra beach in southern Sydney early Saturday.

He was discharged from the hospital Saturday evening, saying he would undergo further tests to determine why he had collapsed.

"It's good to be back on my feet again," he told reporters outside the hospital. "(There are) no obvious causes as to why this happened and we'll get some more tests and checks done next week."

Lifeguards came to Garrett's aid when he collapsed as he waded from the water where he had been body surfing.



Rock singer and leftwing environmentalist Peter Garrett, who was front man for Australia's former Midnight Oil rock band, gestures as he walks along the headland at Sydney's Maroubra Beach in a file photo from June 10, 2004.

Dutch film on radicalism wins prize

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP)—Dutch film "Stand Van De Maan," which addresses increasing Islamic radicalism in Indonesia, won the top prize at the Amsterdam International Documentary Film Festival.

The festival is billed as the world's largest documentary festival, with more than 200 films shown over two weeks in Amsterdam theaters.

"Stand Van De Maan (Shape of the Moon)," directed by Leonard Retel Helmrich, recorded the story of an Indonesian Christian woman who leaves Jakarta for the countryside to avoid growing unemployment and increasingly fundamentalist Islamic sentiment in the city.

Emotional, physical comfort result from sleeping nude

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing in regard to the mother who discovered her 14-year-old daughter sleeping in the nude. I say bravo to that mother and father for creating a home where the girl felt safe enough to sleep that way.

When I was young, I had an older brother who harassed me. I slept with my ears alert and covers up to my nose. I have been through two divorces—and I wouldn't have allowed myself to be caught sleeping in the nude by either of my husbands. They might come home or wake up in a rage, and I needed to be prepared for whatever might happen.

I now have a husband with whom I'm completely relaxed—so I no longer feel the need to wear anything in bed. I keep a robe at bedside for emergencies, but I now sleep comfortably without nightclothes that wrap around my legs or cut off the circulation in my arms.

SLEEPING WELL IN TOPEKA

DEAR SLEEPING WELL: I have always considered wearing (or not wearing) clothing in bed to be a comfort issue. It hadn't occurred to me that it might reflect a measure of emotional security. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The letter from the "Worried Mom" made me laugh, remembering when I was in high school. A group of friends and I decided to "kidnap" four other friends and take them out for breakfast before school. We surprised them in their beds, intending to take them out in public in their pajamas.

All was well until the third house. Like the girl in the letter, our friend "Angie" slept in the nude. I have never seen anyone blush harder than she did that morning.

CHRISTA IN SALT LAKE CITY

DEAR CHRISTA: I guess the "surprise" was on YOU.

DEAR ABBY: I suspect that "Worried Mom" reacted so strongly because she's terrified of her daughter's awakening sexuality, and Mom equates nudity with sex, and sex is "wrong."

Now Mom has two tasks ahead of her. The first is to overcome her own hang-ups. The second is to have a frank discussion with her daughter about how to protect herself in sexual situations. Please tell her to stop worrying. Sleeping nude IS more comfortable.

DOES IT TOO, COLUMBIA, S.C.

DEAR D.I.T.: What was it that Marilyn Monroe used to say? At bedtime her preferred attire was Chanel No. 5.

DEAR ABBY: There are few things in life more freeing than taking a hot shower and jumping nude into bed with fresh, crisp sheets. Please tell that mother not to make something nasty of it. She should try it herself.

BIRTHDAY SUIT SLEEPER IN CASEYVILLE

DEAR SLEEPER: One thing about a birthday suit, it's always in style. And if it loses its shape, it can be altered.

DEAR ABBY: That mother needs to worry about more important things in life than what her daughter wears to bed. If the worst thing that girl has ever done is sleep in the nude, the writer is one lucky mom.

Obviously, "Mom" hasn't started menopause yet. If she had, she, too, would be sleeping in the nude because of hot flashes.

HOT FLASH MOM, ROCKY RIVER, OHIO

DEAR MOM: Good point.

DEAR ABBY: As a nation that prides itself on freedom and liberty, we sure have become a nation of Puritans when it comes to the human body. In most of Europe, the sight of breasts on public television is matter-of-fact, and nude or partially nude bodies sunning on the beaches of the Mediterranean are commonplace.

I would like to challenge your readers to explain why the sight of a nude body is an object of fear and shame rather than of beauty and pride.

ANTI-PRUDE IN SCOTTSDALE

DEAR ANTI-PRUDE: That's an intelligent question.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes





TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	90	53	.629	-
Boston	86	56	.606	31/2
Baltimore	65	76	.461	24
Tampa Bay	61	80	.433	28
Toronto	59	84	.413	31

Central Division

Minnesota	82	60	.577	-
Chicago	72	70	.507	10
Cleveland	70	73	.490	121/2
Detroit	64	77	.454	171/2
Kansas City	51	91	.359	31

West Division

Oakland	83	59	.585	-
Anaheim	81	61	.570	2
Texas	78	64	.549	5
Seattle	53	89	.373	30

Yesterday's Games

Minnesota 8, Detroit 5
N.Y. Yankees 9, Baltimore 7
Texas 7, Toronto 6
Tampa Bay 7, Kansas City 2
Seattle 2, Boston 0
Anaheim 11, Chicago White Sox 0
Oakland 1, Cleveland 0

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	84	58	.592	-
Florida	74	65	.532	81/2
Philadelphia	74	69	.517	101/2
New York	61	81	.430	23
Montreal	59	83	.415	25

Central Division

St. Louis	94	48	.662	-
Chicago	76	64	.543	17
Houston	78	66	.542	17
Pittsburgh	66	77	.462	281/2
Cincinnati	65	77	.458	29
Milwaukee	62	79	.440	311/2

West Division

Los Angeles	83	59	.585	-
San Francisco	79	65	.549	5
San Diego	76	67	.531	71/2
Colorado	62	80	.437	21
Arizona	43	100	.301	401/2

Yesterday's Games

Atlanta 9, Montreal 8, 12 innings
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Mets 2
Milwaukee 11, Cincinnati 0
Florida 11, Chicago Cubs 1
San Diego 15, Colorado 2
St. Louis 7, Los Angeles 6
San Francisco 5, Arizona 2
Houston 5, Pittsburgh 4, 10 innings

NFL STANDINGS

AFC East

	W	L	T	Pct.
N.Y. Jets	1	0	0	1.000
New England	1	0	0	1.000
Buffalo	0	1	0	.000
Miami	0	1	0	.000

North

Cleveland	1	0	0	1.000
Pittsburgh	1	0	0	1.000
Baltimore	0	1	0	.000
Cincinnati	0	1	0	.000

South

Jacksonville	1	0	0	1.000
Tennessee	1	0	0	1.000
Houston	0	1	0	.000
Indianapolis	0	1	0	.000

West

Denver	1	0	0	1.000
San Diego	1	0	0	1.000
Kansas City	0	1	0	.000
Oakland	0	1	0	.000

NFC East

Philadelphia	1	0	0	1.000
Washington	1	0	0	1.000
Dallas	0	1	0	.000
N.Y. Giants	0	1	0	.000

North

Detroit	1	0	0	1.000
Minnesota	1	0	0	1.000
Green Bay	0	0	0	.000
Chicago	0	1	0	.000

South

Atlanta	1	0	0	1.000
Carolina	0	0	0	.000
New Orleans	0	1	0	.000
Tampa Bay	0	1	0	.000

West

Seattle	1	0	0	1.000
St. Louis	1	0	0	1.000
Arizona	0	1	0	.000
San Francisco	0	1	0	.000

Yesterday's Games

Detroit 20, Chicago 16
N.Y. Jets 31, Cincinnati 24
Pittsburgh 24, Oakland 21
San Diego 27, Houston 20
St. Louis 17, Arizona 10
Washington 16, Tampa Bay 10
Seattle 21, New Orleans 7
Jacksonville 13, Buffalo 10
Cleveland 20, Baltimore 3
Atlanta 21, San Francisco 19
Minnesota 35, Dallas 17
Philadelphia 31, N.Y. Giants 17
Denver 34, Kansas City 24

BELL CANADIAN OPEN SCORES

Final Round

(x-Won on third playoff hole)

x-Vijay Singh	68-66-72-69	275
Mike Weir	68-65-70-72	275
Joe Ogilvie	70-69-69-69	277
Justin Rose	70-70-75-63	278
Tom Lehman	74-70-70-64	278
Hunter Mahan	72-69-69-68	278
Stewart Cink	72-68-69-69	278
Robert Damron	72-71-70-66	279
Mark Hensby	70-69-70-71	280
Jesper Parnevik	69-66-71-74	280
Billy Andrade	67-75-71-68	281
David Sutherland	69-72-68-72	281
D.J. Brigman	67-74-67-73	281
Pat Perez	68-68-78-68	282
David Branshaw	71-65-75-71	282
Dean Wilson	71-70-69-72	282
Steve Lowery	70-69-70-73	282
Cliff Kresge	69-70-67-76	282
Jose Coceres	72-70-74-67	283
Arjun Atwal	71-67-75-70	283
Kenny Perry	71-67-74-71	283
Glen Day	70-69-70-74	283
Bill Haas	71-71-67-74	283
Casey Wittenberg	73-72-71-68	284
Chris DiMarco	69-71-73-71	284
Craig Perks	70-72-75-68	285
Bob Tway	74-71-70-70	285
Roland Thatcher	72-72-71-70	285
Corey Pavin	73-70-72-70	285
Bill Glasson	72-70-73-70	285
Brett Sindelar	66-73-74-72	285
Brett Quigley	69-71-73-72	285
Chad Campbell	73-68-72-72	285
David Peoples	69-70-73-73	285
Craig Barlow	67-69-75-74	285
Dudley Hart	72-73-73-68	286
David Edwards	72-69-74-71	286
Richard S. Johnson	73-70-71-72	286
Roger Tambellini	71-71-69-75	286
Dave Frost	73-71-71-72	287
Jason Bohn	73-70-72-72	287
Davis Love III	72-73-68-74	287
Greg Chalmers	71-72-70-74	287
Tommy Tolles	72-70-78-68	288
Esteban Toledo	76-68-72-72	288
Jonathan Byrd	72-70-69-77	288
Jim Rutledge	74-71-75-69	289
Mark Brooks	69-73-76-71	289
Fred Funk	74-70-72-73	289
Mark Wilson	74-70-71-74	289
Tim Petrovic	72-70-73-74	289
Steve Flesch	73-71-75-71	290
David Duval	71-72-76-71	290
Omar Uresti	74-70-74-72	290
Todd Fischer	71-71-75-73	290
Tag Ridings	68-76-72-74	290
Phil Mickelson	75-69-79-68	291
Jim McGovern	71-72-76-72	291
Billy Mayfair	70-74-72-75	291
Neal Lancaster	71-70-75-75	291
Garrett Willis	71-74-75-72	292
Tom Carter	72-71-76-73	292
Dennis Paulson	69-72-75-76	292
Brian Kortan	71-74-70-77	292
Paul Azinger	72-68-74-78	292
Aaron Barber	72-73-75-73	293

Jim Carter

72-69-78-74 293
Danny Briggs 69-73-77-74 293
Justin Leonard 76-66-77-74 293
Dicky Pride 72-72-77-73 294
Grant Waite 75-70-73-76 294
Larry Mize 76-68-74-76 294
David Morland IV 70-73-73-78 294
Dirk Ayers 72-71-79-73 295
Kevin Sutherland 74-71-75-75 295
John Rollins 74-71-74-76 295
Andre Stolz 71-74-77-74 296
Chris Couch 71-71-79-83 304

SPORTS TRANSACTIONS

MLB

SEATTLE MARINERS-Called up LHP Randy Williams from Tacoma of the PCL.
NEW YORK METS-Placed RHP Matt Ginter on the 60-day DL. Recalled OF Victor Diaz from Norfolk of the IL.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES-Activated RHP Kevin Millwood from the 15-day DL.

NFL

ATLANTA FALCONS-Waived S Etric Pruitt. Signed LB Terrence Melton from the practice squad.
BUFFALO BILLS-Reached an injury settlement with QB Travis Brown.
GREEN BAY PACKERS-Signed CB Al Harris to a five-year contract extension. Released TE Steve Bush.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS-Activated S Bob Sanders. Waived FB Cary Davis. Signed DT Jason Stewart to the practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS-Released RB Fred Russell from the practice squad. Signed RB Leonard Henry to the practice squad.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS-Signed OT Mike Rosenthal to a six-year contract extension.
OAKLAND RAIDERS-Activated CB Charles Woodson. Traded DT Chris Cooper to Dallas for future considerations.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS-Waived TE Kevin Ware. Signed FB Matt Stanley from the practice squad.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS-Activated OT Walter Jones. Signed WR Jerheme Urban to the practice squad. Waived G Jerry Wunsch.

By The Associated Press



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Sports

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